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Illinois
Audubon Society.

THE objects of the ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY are the protection of wild birds and the creating of an interest in the study of bird life. It is known that such an interest once aroused is lasting and that there are no better friends of the birds than those who have studied their habits and learned their ways. This bird protection movement is far from being purely sentimental in its nature. A serious economical question is involved. The birds are the means of holding in check the ravages of injurious insects which prey on the crops of the agriculturalists. This fact has been forced home to the farmer

and the fruit raiser since the noticeable decrease in recent years in the number of insect eating birds.

The custom of trimming hats with wings and feathers, which prevails so widely, is responsible in a great measure for the thinning of the bird ranks. The AUDUBON SOCIETY believes that the wearing of bird plumage as an ornament of dress by the women of the country has been due largely to thoughtlessness and ignorance of the true value which the living bird is to the community. It is thought also that ignorance prevails as to the cruelty which in some instances is practiced by the hunters who shoot plumage birds for the market. The securing of the aigrette plume of commerce is marked by particular cruelty because the adult herons from which the aigrette is taken are killed at the nesting season, the young birds, unable to care for themselves, being left to starve in the

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and city in the State. It is asked that persons interested in the cause will undertake the forming of affiliated societies in the vicinity of their homes.

The cost of membership in the society is as follows:

Membership fee	\$.25	} No annual dues.
Associate membership fee....	1.00	
Sustaining members	25.00	
Active members, annually	\$ 1.00	

Associate, active and sustaining members receive all the publications of the Illinois Society.

Any other information touching the society and its work will be given gladly to any one who will write to the secretary of the Illinois Audubon Society, Miss Mary Drummond, Wheaton, Ill.

stringent law for the protection of birds. The statute provides a fine and imprisonment as the penalties for robbing the nest of any wild bird. The same punishment is provided for the killing or having in possession, alive or dead, any birds save those known as game birds, which may be killed in the proper season. No person under fifteen years of age is allowed to make collections of birds or their eggs and no adult may collect save for scientific purposes and then only after the filing in court of a bond of \$200 with two sureties therefor, and the depositing of a certificate signed by two well known scientists to the effect that he is a proper person to be given the privilege.

The ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY earnestly urges that all people to whom bird protection appeals will assist in the work in any way which may suggest itself. It is desired to form branch societies in every town

• nests. One aim of this Society there-
• for is to discourage the traffic in
• plumage and at the same time to in-
• duce people to protect in every way
• possible the wild birds which lend to
our lives so much beauty of color and
song.

Ill. Audubon Society
The ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
also desires to reach the children and
it hopes that the school teachers in all
parts of the state will co-operate with
the members in the work which they
are trying to do. It is suggested
that as a practical way of securing
good results Audubon Societies be
formed among the pupils. The prac-
tice of nest robbing common among
boys is one of the most fruitful causes
of the destruction of bird life. It is
believed that this habit can be checked
if a humane interest in the birds be
aroused.

It may be stated here as a matter
of information that the legislature of
the State of Illinois in 1899 passed a

Illinois Audubon Society.

PRESIDENT:

MR. RUTHVEN DEANE,
30 Michigan Avenue,
Chicago.

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